

2014 Training and Simulation Industry Symposium Q&A Session Recap

Program Executive Officer

Please provide us your view of the high-level roles and missions of PEO STRI and TRADOC. Where do you see opportunities for program realignment and consolidation between PEO STRI and TRADOC?

The primary role of the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC), as the Army's requirements generator, is to represent the Warfighter. PEO STRI, as the materiel developer, has the mission to fulfill the requirements.

PEO STRI intends to work with Combined Arms Center-Training (CAC-T) and DAMO-TR to pull programs in, collapse to "good enough" solutions, and start new programs where appropriate to shape Force 2025 and beyond.

Do you envision Warfighter FOCUS as a core mission for PEO STRI?

Sustaining training systems that are Programs of Record (POR) fall within PEO STRI's core mission, although the procurement of services, like those to acquire role players, military intelligence instructors, and training curriculum development, will transition to the Army Contracting Command before Warfighter FOCUS' period of performance expires in October 2017.

Do you envision DAMO-TR (Training PEG) willing to resource PEO STRI core mission programs with the same analytical rigor or the Equipping PEG, e.g., over the life cycle and not one year at a time?

Yes, the expectation is to get moving in that direction.

Currently, PEO STRI is in the process of stabilizing programs to ensure that top-priority programs are funded to the approved Army requirement. Those ranking programs will eventually become PEO STRI's comprehensive portfolio.

In order to accomplish this, PEO STRI is focused on developing a Training LIRA, a Long-Range Investment Requirements Analysis for training plans and priorities. The intent is for the Training LIRA to look and feel very similar to the Weapon System Review process of planning and prioritization just like the other portfolios within the Army.

All Army Programs of Record pass through the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) and include requirements for interoperability. Please discuss PEO STRI's actions to support joint interoperability.

There's a Key Performance Parameter (KPP) for interoperability, and PEO STRI will continue to enforce interoperability.

Since the Army trains and fights in a joint environment, what is your perspective on Team Orlando and collaborating with sister services?

It's important to leverage each other's capabilities to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars, and PEO STRI will continue to work with its Team Orlando partners and its sister services where it makes sense to do so.

The services are reportedly adding 6,000 uniformed cyber warriors. The modeling, simulation and training community can add a lot to preparing these warriors. What can you say about Program of Record (POR) funding (Army/Joint) to support cyber defense training?

Fort Gordon is the Army Cyber Center of Excellence, and PEO STRI, as one of the four Program Executive Offices who is involved with cyber, will stay in tune with Army cyber and network operations.

If PEO STRI divests itself of all non-Army training systems and requirements, what is the strategy for capturing advancements in similar training systems through other agencies?

PEO STRI will leverage its sister services and research and development counterparts to bring all synergy to fruition.

Almost every PM briefed non-Program of Record (POR) opportunities. Please explain how the decision is made to accept some non-POR work and not others?

Directed G-3 requirements and DOT&E efforts are still tied to PEO STRI core Programs of Record.

Will the Army be attending I/ITSEC?

Yes, the Army views I/ITSEC as the premier venue for modeling and simulation professionals.

Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting

ACC needs a PM or PEO to serve as a requiring agency to contract for work that will no longer be performed under TEACH. What agency will perform that function?

Army Contracting Command (ACC) executes contracting support for many Army organizations not directly supported by a PEO/PM. In most cases, their requirements come directly from a post, camp and/or station with no direct supporting PMO support. We have had the benefit at PEO STRI to own our contracting support internally and that is why for

us this is a standard business practice. The responsibility to provide oversight resides with the requiring activity requesting contracting support regardless if that organization is a PEO/PM, supported by a PEO/PM or is an Army post, camp or station.

Was an analysis performed to make the determination that decentralizing training contracts would be more efficient? Previous consolidation actions, e.g., Warfighter FOCUS documented savings in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

The analysis done to support the decision to cancel the draft TEACH Request For Proposal (RFP) was a product of the new PEO's Commander's Assessment. The Commander's Assessment focused on the required actions and activities required to improve the health of our assigned Programs of Record (POR). Based on the PEO STRI portfolio assessment we are no longer planning to support customer training service requirements not in direct support of our core competencies and/or Programs of Record (POR).

The savings associated with the WFF contract were achieved in the initial years following contract award, and they were achieved as a result of the synergies gained from consolidating the maintenance and sustainment support of our Non-systems Training Aids, Devices, Simulators and Simulations (TADSS) to a single award ID/IQ contract. The training service requirements envisioned for the TEACH acquisition do not lend themselves to these same synergies. Additionally, the services currently on the WFF contract can now be competed based on our historical knowledge of the requirements versus being executed on a single award ID/IQ. This would facilitate a potential cost savings to the government through competition and would facilitate greater opportunities for small business.

Has PEO STRI considered transitioning TEACH requirements NOT related to STRI POR's to existing Army contract vehicles such as OPTARRS, TSS, Seaport (i.e., 2 Navy TO's), etc?

The actual follow on contracting strategy (contract vehicle(s)) put in place to satisfy the requirements being moved will be the responsibility of the Army Contracting Command (ACC) once we have transitioned the requirements to them. They can use existing contracts and/or issue new Request for Proposals (RFP) based on their internal assessment and workload demands once they assume the requirements.

Yesterday the Navy (NAWCTSD) told us that they cannot award options or task orders to 8(a) contractors. What is the DoD position?

As stated during TSIS, we received late breaking news on 11 June 2014 via a memorandum signed by the HQDA Office of General Counsel (OGC) dated 10 June 2014. This memo highlighted a revised legal opinion related to our ability to issue orders and exercise options on existing 8(a) contracts. The HQDA OGC memo referenced DoD policy in support of the revised legal opinion. We had been operating under a previously issued Army legal opinion which stated that based on the Dynalantic ruling we could no longer award new contracts under the 8(a) program when in support of military simulations and/or military simulation training requirements. We assume that the Navy TSIS representatives had not

yet received the new and revised DoD guidance through their legal and contracting organizations.

You stated that a single contract (aka Son of TEACH) was an alternative options which is rumored that Ms. Shyu has stated IS the answer and will be released within 6-12 months. Please address why multiple vehicles are being considered as the best solution vs. single?

To the best of our knowledge, the Army Acquisition Executive (AAE) has not stated that a single contract (aka Son of TEACH) is the path forward for competing the requirements we are in the process of migrating from the Warfighter FOCUS contract to Army Contracting Command (ACC) based on the PEO STRI portfolio assessment. This is a viable contracting solution but the final decision on how to compete these requirement resides with ACC. Like TEACH, the follow-on contracting strategies, which have yet to be determined, to satisfy these requirement are envisioned to be done in a more competitive environment and will provide maximum small business opportunities.

Instead of pulling the MTC programs off WFF, why not formulate a competitive ID/IQ contract for all MTC efforts – III Corps; XVIII Airborne Corps; etc.?

These types of requirements are no longer considered a PEO STRI portfolio priority based on the PEO's assessment of our core competencies and focus on support to Programs of Record (POR). We defer to ACC on how they want to compete or satisfy these requirements in the future once PEO STRI has transferred the contract workload to ACC.

With regard to Warfighter FOCUS, you said those requirements will remain through FY17. Is there a danger of the WFF ceiling being blown before that?

Based on our current workload assessment, we do not have a contract ceiling issue on WFF based on our existing and known future requirements.

With the expected Continuing Resolution for FY16, what can be done to move contract awards into FY15?

We continually look to address our requirements across the PEO portfolio in support of our documented program spend plans taking into account our obligation and disbursement goals. When we can accelerate a procurement, we take the necessary actions required IAW the PEO's priorities to meet the PMs cost, schedule and performance needs.

Since service support contracts for TADDs are not necessarily TADSS under the mission, does that mean contracting for these services will go to ACC?

Not necessarily. When we have service type requirements in support of our core competencies and/or Programs of Record (POR) we will continue to contract for these services IAW the associated service acquisition strategies. We have multi-million dollar service -type contracts in place within our PEO STRI contracts portfolio that will continue

to be managed by PEO STRI. In addition, it is envisioned that the future contracting efforts for these requirements will be done by the PEO STRI Contracting Center.

Reference TEACH; understand that the PEO STRI Contracting Center will be moving to the Army Contracting Command. Will the TEACH requirement move to this org in Orlando and possibly let them develop a TEACH-like contract?

As previously announced by the Army Acquisition Executive (AAE) there is a plan to transition the PEO STRI Contracting Center to Army Contracting Command (ACC). This action is contingent upon the successful implementation of the Single Army Head of Contracting Activity (HCA) concept. The date of the formal decision to execute the transition process remains TBD at this time. We cannot say what if any of these requirements, formerly considered part of the TEACH acquisition, might be executed by a future ACC-Florida Contracting Center since this action remains pre-decisional. We will do our best to keep industry informed.

Will the Government provide a list of TEACH requirements that will transition to ACC and the Services?

As we develop the transition plan for the efforts currently on WFF, in coordination with the Army Contracting Command (ACC), formerly envisioned for the TEACH acquisition we will provide industry periodic updates on the requirements migration. This should facilitate industry's efforts to pursue these follow on Army procurements.

Can you explain what it means transferring TEACH/WFF Training Services to ACC? Is there a specific part of ACC?

The Army Contracting Command (ACC) is comprised of several subordinate Commands to include the Mission Installation Contracting Command (MICC), the Expeditionary Contracting Command (ECC) and the System Contracting Centers. Based on the PEO STRI portfolio assessment we are no longer planning to support customer training service requirements not in support of our core competencies and/or Programs of Record (POR). As a result, we are working with ACC on a transition plan for these Army customer requirements currently on contract through the PEO STRI Contracting Center. The intent is to migrate these requirements to ACC for contract administration purposes or for future competition. Where in the ACC family of contracting centers these requirements will migrate to is the decision of ACC leadership. We will do our best to keep industry informed.

If PEO STRI moves HCA to ACC, is it feasible that ACC could award a TEACH-like contract vehicle? Would PEO STRI help support the SSEB with manpower?

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requirements, formerly considered part of the TEACH acquisition, might be executed by a future ACC–Florida Contracting Center since this action remains pre-decisional. We will do our best to keep industry informed.

Can you provide us an update on change/transition of HCA to ACC?

PEO STRI retains our Head of Contracting Activity (HCA). MG Maddux is the PEO STRI HCA. As previously announced by the Army Acquisition Executive (AAE) there is a plan to transition the PEO STRI Contracting Center to Army Contracting Command (ACC). This action is contingent upon the successful implementation of the Single Army HCA concept. The date of the formal decision to execute the transition process remains TBD at this time. We will do our best to keep industry informed.

Briefings suggested a variety of single source ID/IQs. Other commands suggest they need an exemption for a single source award and must go to a 2 or 3 company (multi) award and then a Task Order competition to comply with current regulations. Why are single source ID/IQs an opportunity for PEO STRI?

There is a regulatory requirement to obtain the approval of the Senior Procurement Executive (SPE) (Army Acquisition Executive (AAE) – dual function) when seeking to pursue/award a single award ID/IQ as part of an acquisition strategy when the dollar threshold exceeds \$103M. Below this threshold the authority resides with the Contracting Officer. That said, the rationale to pursue a single award ID/IQ or any contracting strategy/contract type is always based on the assessment of the requirement itself.

If procurements go to ACC or once they go to ACC, will they no longer be briefed at PEO STRI's PALTs?

Procurements not being executed and/or administered by the PEO STRI Contracting Center are not briefed at the PEO STRI PALT sessions. However, until we fully transition the Army requirements currently on the WFF contract, which were envisioned to be part of our former TEACH acquisition, we will provide industry periodic updates as we migrate this workload to the Army Contracting Command (ACC). This should facilitate industry's ability to pursue these Army procurements.

Can you provide an update to the SETA contract?

This procurement was accepted into PALT by the Contracting Center but due to changing requirements the procurement is on hold pending the submission of a revised requirements document. We will continue to keep industry informed formally through FBO and informally as part of our monthly PALT sessions.

Technical Director

Is it possible to use a simulation of the embedded training scenario to evaluate the optimism mix/combination of training sources?

We see simulation as a key enabler for Embedded Training (ET) and will be a key component of future ET and mission rehearsal capabilities. Finding the right mix of embedded versus off-platform training is key to ensuring the Army achieves the best ROI. Using simulations to help inform the Army on optimizing the best mix of training capabilities/sources (embedded, CBT/IMI, off-platform, etc.) is a valid path forward.

You mention an interest in embedded training. What platforms do you think are appropriate for embedded training?

There are Embedded Training (ET) opportunities in both current and future platforms. Today, some of our current platforms (Abrams, Bradley, Stryker) have some initial ET capabilities. We see the potential of expanding these current ET capabilities to support virtual, live and the Army's Integrated Training Environment. For future systems, we are working with the Mission Command (MC) community to embed simulation/stimulation capabilities into our operational MC systems. We are also working with the ground combat community to include embedding training/mission rehearsal capabilities into the Vehicular Integration for C4ISR/EW Interoperability (VICTORY) architecture. Recently we have been working with the Army's new Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle (AMPV) to include ET capabilities. Other potential areas for ET include: Dismounted, Intelligence and EW.

CIO/G-6

For IA requirements, will PEO STRI move to Windows 8+ OS? Will Sim SW products be required to support Windows 8+ OS?

At this time we do not know of any plans for the Army to migrate to Windows 8 OS other than for tablets. We anticipate that the Army will wait to migrate to Windows 9 for non tablets. People should be aware that this information is not final and is subject to change by DA depending on multiple issues.

Program Manager Training Devices (PM TRADE)

What, if any, is the relationship between the Urban Operations Training Complex and the Joint Urban Test Capability?

The test community desires to leverage training systems for test purposes where appropriate. In the case of the Joint Urban Test Capability, there are test requirements to replicate specific environments that could not be met by an existing urban operations training system. Therefore, there is not a strong relationship between an Urban Operations Training Complex and the Joint Urban Test Capability.

JUTC is a capability to support developmental and operational testing. JUTC will provide variability of test conditions. This includes ability to vary building configurations, building

footprint and material performance for infrared and electromagnetic characteristics and building array to include spacing between buildings and relational positioning. JUTC expects to alter building configurations and array at least twice per year to accommodate specific test needs. The ability to assemble, test, disassemble, move and reassemble building representations to accommodate specific test needs is a major difference than what is required by the training community.

JUTC will also provide layered additional augmented urban environment effects.

Project Manager, Combined Arms Tactical Trainers (PM CATT)

What is the difference between “distributed training” and “collective training?”

Distributed Training is where geographically separated units or entities can participate in a common collaborative training environment. Collective training is the combination of individuals and organizations into a mission specific training event. Collective training can be distributed or local, synchronous or asynchronous.

How does the PM weigh overall affordability related to initial deployment and long term logistics support of a game engine?

Gaming capabilities and gaming engines are rapidly becoming integral to virtual training products. These technologies will be analyzed within the context of the broader capability requirement they support. In most cases, this will be a prime contractor task.

What is PEO STRI’s preferred mechanism for gaining information regarding potential industry capabilities that provide solutions for the “areas of interest” shown in your briefing?

Through market research, the government comprehensively investigates the set of available capabilities which may bear on the development of solutions to approved capability requirements. There are also Broad Agency Announcements, Requests for Information, and Sources Sought notices that more formally request industry responses.

How does Flight School XXI and turnkey virtual trainers for rent (like Raydon offerings) inform how we deliver training in the future?

If there is a valid capability requirement, and there is a services option that is responsive to that requirement, the PM will consider it in the solution set. Services options provide short term risk mitigation for volume and immediate need. However, there are significant challenges with any long term services solutions for training.

How do you reconcile the PEO direction to focus on Army program of record support with support to VHA?

We will continue to support VHA in those areas where our core competencies and collateral synergy apply.

Program Manager Instrumentation, Targets and Threat Simulators (PM ITTS)

Will initial awards to multiple contractors be on a cost plus basis? Will there be a building and sample materials evaluation as part of the fly-off during initial contract award?

PM ITTS assumes these questions are in regards to the Joint Urban Training Capability. The Material Sample Evaluation was removed as part of source selection. Intend to award to one or more offerors (4Q FY15) COST PLUS CONTRACT for prototype demonstrators. Prototype demonstrators will be evaluated during the Technical Feasibility Test (TFT) to determine material performance, mechanical approach and safety of use. TFT is a critical off-ramp to demonstrate viability of the modular, variable approach and realistic material performance. Following a successful TFT, government intends to activate FIXED PRICE CONTRACT options to only one contract awardee for production of the Urban Building Replicas (approximately 21,000 sq ft of space arranged in 19 "building representations").

Please define optical tracking systems; what are they?

Tracking systems provide the capability to measure the 3D position and orientation of one or more objects that move in a defined space, relative to a known position. Optical tracking systems use sensors in the visible and infrared wavebands on a gimbaled pedestal/trailer to track and provide imagery/data on tracked objects. These systems can also include other instrumentation, such as laser rangefinders or range-only radars, to provide a single-station time-space-position information (TSPI) solution. Examples of optical tracking systems include: Kineto Tracking Mount, Cine-Sextant Tracking Mount and Super Radot Tracking System.

Joe Giunta stated that services contracts will be pulled out to ACC efforts. Does this approach apply also to TSMO and TMO services contracts?

Threat Systems Management Office and Targets Management Office will continue to use service contracts as necessary in support of Army Programs of Record. All Targets Management Office contracting is executed by ACC Redstone Arsenal.

In a recent PALT, it was announced that PM ITTS was picking up new cyber training requirements. When will we see opportunities to support cyber training?

Unsure what PALT session the author of this question is referring to. To date PM ITTS has not "picked up" new requirements for cyber training. PM ITTS has participated in

discussions with both TRADOC CAC-T and the Signal Center of Excellence on capabilities and expertise that could be leveraged from PM ITTS to assist in shaping meaningful requirements. Cyber training is a very broad topic and some of the training mission for Cyber is outside a PM's core competency regarding materiel acquisition.

Program Manager Constructive Simulation (PM ConSim)

Does PEO STRI still consider the CBID II program to be a “core” program or is it at risk of cancellation like the TEACH program?

The Computer Based Instructional Development program continues to support Army customers in meeting their interactive multimedia instruction needs. As a fully customer funded program, CBID will continue to support Army programs. Since CBID is not a mission program funded by the Department of the Army, one could say it is not a “core” PEO STRI program, but as long as CBID continues to meet the needs of PMs within and outside of PEO STRI, the program will continue. PEO STRI will proceed with the CBID II contract to meet these requirements.

What is the expected date for the CBID II RFP? Will there be a draft RFP?

There will be a Draft RFP. PEO STRI expects to release the draft by the end of June and release the final RFP late 4th Qtr FY 14.

Is information overload related to tactical decision making part of IEWTPT?

By design, Intelligence Electronic Warfare Tactical Proficiency Trainer (IEWTPT) exercise planning tools will produce information overload for the trainee. The exercises are developed to create a stressful and comprehensive environment that forces the Intel Soldier to conduct proper intelligence preparation of the battlefield activities in order to meet the commander's priority intelligence requirements and provide the common operating picture.

What is the role of OneSAF?

One Semi-Automated Forces (OneSAF) is a critical component of our constructive simulation strategy. It is a next-generation, entity-level simulation that supports both computer generated forces and semi-automated forces applications. It will play a key role in the support of the strategy for the foreseeable future.

Project Director Field Operations

Will the philosophy that was applied to TEACH going to the Army Contracting Command be applied to Warfighter FOCUS and moved out of PEO STRI?

No, our direct mission to sustain Army Program of Record training systems is our core mission and will not transition to the Army Contracting Command.

What is the status of the Joint Base San Antonio MTC task (formerly AMEDD)?

We plan to compete this effort under OPTARS. PD Field OPS will assess this requirement with the PEO and PARC to determine how this effort will be linked to our migration plan for support mission work to the Army Contracting Command. An update will be provided at the next PALT session, if not sooner.

Of the 160 team members of the Warfighter FOCUS contract, how many different team members have been used?

101 companies; 73 small and 28 large.

Miscellaneous

As part of the refocus of PEO STRI's efforts, do you anticipate a reduction of the PEO STRI civilian workforce?

As you move to more standard PEO mission alignment, will LCMC be designated to support PEO STRI or will the PEO retain those LCMC type functions as logistics support, engineering, etc.?

1. As part of the refocus of PEO STRI's efforts, do you anticipate a reduction of the PEO STRI civilian workforce?

PEO STRI is committed to meeting its statutory obligations under Title 10 to annually review its workforce to determine the most appropriate and cost efficient mix of military, civilian, and contractor personnel to perform the mission. We will continue to ensure that the right skill set is filling the right position, that aligns with PEO STRI priorities in support of the Army.

2. As you move to more standard PEO mission alignment, will LCMC be designated to support PEO STRI or will the PEO retain those LCMC type functions as logistics support, engineering, etc.?

We do not anticipate any changes.